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JAN 7 1961

Approved For Release 2000/04/13 : CIA-RDP

PRESS

Mr. McCone Leaving

JOHN A. MCCONE has decided to quit as chairman and a member of the Atomic Energy Commission when the Kennedy Administration takes over. This is regrettable.

Mr. McCone, who served at the Pentagon during the last Democratic Administration, took over AEC after a difficult situation had developed between the atomic agency and Congress. He has done a good job.

It was to be hoped that as he did with the FBI and the CIA, President-elect Kennedy would underscore the non-partisanship of the Atomic Commission by retention of Chairman McCone. But this hope was not fulfilled.

We trust that in picking his own man Mr. Kennedy will remember that the chairmanship of AEC requires a person of courage, maturity, competence, imagination, the highest integrity and a sense of humility to direct future development of the most awesome power on earth.

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